GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:395
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2001
DISTRICT RURAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details in regard to the formulation and functioning of District Rural Development Agencies ;

(b) whether the Government propose to wind up District Rural Development Agencies(DRDAs) and likely to set up District Panchayats;

(c) if so, the details in this regard and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the amount spent by the Union Government on the District Rural Development Agencies(DRDAs) during each of the last three years and till date, State-wise alongwith the achievements made thereunder, till date?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUBHASH MAHARIA)

(a): The District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) has traditionally been the principal organ at the district level to oversee the implementation of different anti-poverty programmes. From the 1st April, 1999, a separate scheme of DRDA Administration has been started in order to strengthen the DRDA and make it a more professional and specialized agency. The districts have been divided into four categories, depending on the number of blocks in the district, and the optimum staff strength required has been suggested according to the category. The DRDAis visualized as a specialized and a professional agency capable of managing the anti-poverty programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development on the one hand and to effectively relate these to the overall effort of poverty eradication in the district. In terms of planning for effective implementation of anti-poverty programmes, DRDAs coordinate with other agencies - Governmental, non-Governmental, technical and financial for successful programme implementation; enabling the community and the rural poor to participate in the decision making process and oversee the implementation to ensure adherence to the Guidelines and reporting to the prescribed authorities on the implementation.

(b)&(c): Each district is to have its own District Rural Development Agency which will maintain its separate identity and is expected to coordinate effectively with the Panchayati Raj Institutions.In respect of such States where the DRDA has been merged with the Zila Panchayat and does not have a separate identity, a separate DRDA Cell is being maintained within the Zila Parishad.

(d): The District Rural Development Agency Administration Scheme has been launched w.e.f. 1.4.1999.A statement showing the State-wise details of the amounts spent on the District Rural Development Agencies by the Union Government w.e.f. 1.4.1999 and till date is annexed. This being a Scheme to meet the administrative costs of the District Rural Development Agencies, no targets are fixed under the scheme as such achievements cannot be quantified.

Annexure

Statement refered to in part(d) of L.S Unstarred Q.No.395 due for reply on 24.7.2001 showing the central releases made during 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 (Ist instalment)

(Rs. Lakhs)

Central Releases

States/U.ts	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02
1 Andhra Pradesh	489.30	944.12	486.08
2 Arunachal Pradesh	211.55	351.21	134.23
3 Assam	463.03	534.24	0.00
4 Bihar	1177.19	986.49	584.68
5 Chhatisgarh+		458.31	285.38

6 Goa	22.18	40.55	34.91
7 Gujarat	491.02	731.22	360.96
8 Haryana	332.00	476.15	244.37
9 Himachal Pradesh	209.85	295.03	186.41
10 Jammu & Kashmir	271.95	322.78	197.59
11 Jharkhand+		430.71	160.32
12 Karnataka	489.30	627.89	381.34
13 Kerala	290.03	462.09	268.79
14 Madhya Pradesh	898.42	1315.72	839.21
15 Maharashtra	675.95	1096.54	597.88
16 Meghalaya	117.38	146.40	42.46
17 Manipur	148.77	208.74	52.44
18 Nagaland	134.10	200.65	122.81
19 Mizoram	129.32	195.78	42.46
20 Orissa	606.00	1016.92	601.95
21 Punjab	318.70	453.56	285.38
22 Rajasthan	597.47	1207.30	593.52
23 Sikkim	19.45	44.89	16.25
24 Tamil Nadu	606.34	1020.88	602.34
25 Tripura	76.77	115.07	64.11
26 Uttar Pradesh	1701.98	1920.64	1365.25
27 Uttaranchal+		320.93	229.80
28 West Bengal	391.37	462.70	233.87
29 A & N Isaland	41.86	48.30	0.00
30 D & N HAVELI	20.93	24.15	0.00
31 DAMAN & DIU	20.93	24.15	0.00
32 LAKSHADWEEP	20.93	24.15	20.79
33 PONDICHERRY	25.93	41.58	25.76
Total	11000.00	16549.83	9061.34

+ - Newly created States.